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RHEHAAA/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RHMFISS/HQ USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL IMMEDIATE
RHMFIUU/DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
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WHA CENTRAL AMERICAN COLLECTIVE

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E.O. 12958: N/A
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SUBJECT: Nicaragua 2009 TIP Interim Assessment

REF: A) STATE 110433; B) MANAGUA 174

1. (SBU) Per ref A, below is Embassy Managua's 2009 TIP interim assessment for Nicaragua. In preparation for this report PolOff requested a meeting with the Government of Nicaragua's (GoN) Coordinator for the National Coalition Against Trafficking in Persons (NCATIP), however, the Coordinator stated the request for the meeting needed to be directed to the Minister of Government. The Minister has yet to respond to our request, and the Coordinator would not respond to our questions without first receiving approval to do so from the Minister. The following information is based on discussions with other government offices and civil society groups, as well as media reports.

2. (SBU) According to the Public Ministry's Executive Director Delia Rosales, thus far in calendar year 2009 the Ministry has five trafficking cases in process, but as of yet no convictions. She reported no cases against government officials who may be suspected of complicity in trafficking. The government does not effectively enforce the law against forced labor or implement programs to combat forced labor.

3. (SBU) With regard to victims' assistance, the GoN has not dedicated any additional resources. As reported in ref C, in October 2008, the Gc CALLAHAN